AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing biometric information, comprising the steps of:

capturing a first biometric sample of a live subject from a single ~~sensor~~ device;

transmitting the first biometric sample from the ~~sensor~~ device to a processing component;

processing the first biometric sample by a first vendor's template generation ~~biometric~~ algorithm to yield a first reference template;

associating the first reference template with a record identifier;

processing the first biometric sample by a second vendor's template generation ~~biometric~~ algorithm to yield a second reference template; ~~and~~

associating the second reference template with the record identifier; and

processing a second biometric sample by a template generation algorithm to create a match template;

performing a comparison between the match template and one of the reference templates; and

generating a score based on the comparison.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

processing the first biometric sample by one or more additional vendor's ~~biometric~~ template generation algorithms to yield one or more additional reference templates; and

associating the one or more additional reference templates with the record identifier.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for a type of template from a requesting authority, wherein the request identifies ~~a~~ the type of template needed to perform a match and the ~~given~~ record identifier;

determining from a plurality of storage units if the requested type of template is available for the ~~given~~ record identifier; and

transmitting the type of template~~, if it is available,~~ requested to the requesting authority.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for a biometric match from a requesting authority along with ~~a~~ the match template, wherein the request identifies the ~~given~~ record identifier;

locating from a plurality of storage units ~~the~~ a reference template associated with the ~~given~~ record identifier that is compatible with the match template; and

performing a template comparison between the match template and the located reference template.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of returning the result of the template ~~match~~ comparison to the requesting authority.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the template generation algorithms ~~are selected from the group of the following technologies:~~ includes minutiae matching, pattern matching, vector line analysis, Eigenface ~~and~~, or neural network processing.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~template creation process~~ processing to yield the first and second reference templates is preceded by an image pre-processing step wherein the ~~image~~ first biometric sample is modified according to information in a vendor profile associated with the vendor's algorithm.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the information in the vendor profile ~~is selected from the group of following:~~ include image dimension, resolution, scale, speed, time, frequency, ~~and~~ or orientation.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the vendor profile is created prior to the image pre-processing step based on features associated with a specific algorithm.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the image pre-processing comprises the steps of:

extracting several different sub-samples from the first biometric sample by means for superimposing geometric shapes on the first biometric sample, wherein ~~such~~ the geometric shapes ~~correspond~~ are associated with the vendor profile; and

performing a match between a reference template created from the sub-samples and one of the reference templates.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the geometric shapes are rectangles.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second biometric ~~sample is selected from the group of following items:~~ samples include a fingerprint, a facial image, an iris image, a retina image, a voiceprint, a DNA sample, a hand shape, a signature, ~~and~~ or a gait.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~a fingerprint sample is captured on~~ the single device is a livescan input device with at least 400 dots per square inch resolution.

14. – 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of performing a template comparison between a match template and one of the reference templates~~ wherein the first and second vendor's template generation algorithms perform feature extraction.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~16~~1, further comprising the step of

granting access or privilege rights to the subject when the score meets a specified threshold

~~performing a template comparison between the match template and one or more additional reference templates~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~1, ~~further comprising the step of~~ wherein the comparison is made using a weighting algorithm ~~to evaluate the results of the one or more different template matches~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~18~~1, ~~further comprising the step of generating one final result as to whether there is a match between the person represented by the given identifier and the match template based upon the one or more template matches~~ wherein the single device includes one or more sensors.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]]1, wherein the template comparison is performed on a centralized server.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]]1, wherein the template comparison is performed locally in proximity to the ~~sensor~~ device.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for processing biometric information, comprising the steps of:

capturing a first biometric sample of a live subject from a single device ~~sensor~~;

transmitting the first biometric sample from the ~~sensor~~ device to a storage component;

receiving a request from a requesting authority, wherein the request identifies a vendor and associated ~~biometric~~ template generation algorithm to be used in creating a reference template, and the reference template is not created until the request is received from the requesting authority; ~~and~~

processing the first biometric sample by the identified vendor's ~~biometric~~ template generation algorithm to-create the reference template; and

processing a second biometric sample by a template generation algorithm to create a match template;

performing a comparison between the match template and one of the reference templates; and

generating a score based on the comparison.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of returning the reference template to the requesting authority.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 ~~further comprising the step of performing a template comparison between the reference template and a match template~~, wherein the first and second vendor's template generation algorithms perform feature extraction.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of returning the ~~result of the template comparison~~ score to the requesting authority.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for processing biometric information, comprising the steps of:

retrieving a first biometric sample of a live subject captured by a single device from a storage component;

transmitting the first biometric sample from the storage component to a processing component;

processing the first biometric sample by a first vendor's ~~biometric~~ template generation algorithm to yield a first reference template;

associating the first reference template with ~~an associated~~ a record identifier;

processing the first biometric sample by a second vendor's ~~biometric~~ template generation algorithm to yield a second reference template; ~~and~~

associating the second reference template with the record identifier; and

processing a second biometric sample by a template generation algorithm to create a match template;

performing a comparison between the match template and one of the reference templates; and

generating a score based on the comparison.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

processing the first biometric sample by one or more additional vendor's template generation algorithms to yield one or more additional reference templates; and

associating the one or more additional reference templates with the record identifier.

28. – 30. (Cancelled)